

ER 11-652-a

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CONFIDENTIAL

27 JAN 1959

11:00

Time

Chris

Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Humphrey:

In response to your inquiry of January 17th, we have checked our information and also queried the Embassy in Moscow. I can therefore report that your television appearance in Moscow was transmitted live in that city and that a sound broadcast of your remarks on television was later rebroadcast on the Moscow city radio. There is no evidence that these items were rebroadcast in other cities and the presumption is that they were not.

The press did not carry the text of your remarks nor a summary thereof, and the article you wrote for Izvestia was never printed.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

O/DDI:RAMory,Jr:imm (26 Jan 59)
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State Cable from Moscow, 1/24/59. # 1482 (retd to DD/I)

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Executive Registry

11-652

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

January 17, 1959

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I would very much appreciate your assistance on the matter of an inference that the Soviet authorities did not permit my radio and television appearance in Moscow on about December 3, 1958, to be broadcast to the peoples of the Soviet Union.

Attached is a report printed in the Intelligence Digest by Kenneth de Courcy published in England.

Kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,


Hubert H. Humphrey

Encl

LAW OFFICES OF
FINN & VAN MELL
39 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO 3

WILLIAM SHERMAN HAY (1905-1933)
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January 12, 1959

TELEPHONE FRANKLIN 2-1580
CABLE ADDRESS
"FINMELL, CHICAGO"

Senator Hubert Humphrey
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Humphrey:

I enclose photostatic copy of an article appearing in the January 1959 issue of Intelligence Digest, which you probably know of published in England by Kenneth de Courcy.

This article purports to claim that you were victimized by the Russians into thinking that you were giving a broadcast to the Russian people, when in fact it was not broadcast in full and live over the Moscow radio but merely used for propaganda purposes in other countries, and particularly in the United States.

This is a rather serious charge and the thought occurred to me that you might wish to have it investigated by the CIA. If the charge is correct, it is quite possible that it might be used to discredit you by persons hostile to you. Since from my contacts with you I feel that you are one of the important men in this country to whom we can look forward to better and more intelligent government, I thought that if you could personally verify what happened, you would be in a position to disarm criticism in advance.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



HTVM:AM

SOVIET PROPAGANDA : A NEW ANGLE

THE FOLLOWING report from one of our regular sources is interesting in itself. But in its references to the subliminal approach (of which much has already been heard in other advertising contexts) a new and extremely interesting angle is suggested.

It so happens that a most important field of research is being entered at an

English university by a highly distinguished physiologist. It is directed towards trying to unravel what happens in the brain (as distinct from the mind) in cases of conversion to Communism or submission to Communist or Soviet propaganda. The emphasis of this field of research is physical rather than psychological and some extremely

interesting possibilities have already come to light.

This Service hopes shortly to be able to publish an authoritative scientific report in *World Science Review*.

Our Correspondent's political report is as follows:—

There are a number of globe-trotting politicians who seem to feel that their descending on Moscow for a lightning visit and a personal talk with Mr. Khrushchev is all that is needed to start an improvement in the international situation.

There are also large numbers of leftists and fellow-travellers all over the place, covering up Moscow's brazen practices and its ugly stock-in-trade.

A Dismal List

There is the dismal list of western top secrets, in the field of atomic research for example, filched by the Kremlin. There is the ruthless plucking of the brains of western scientists, some of whom were abducted to Russia after the war. It is as well to recall that it was by blackmail and treason on an international scale that Russia succeeded in boosting its once desperately backward science.

All this has helped the Kremlin to get on towards the Sputnik era, which it might never have reached if left to its own devices. And, to-day, let no-one have any illusions about Moscow having become respectable or that it has ceased its unsavoury activities.

A Slow-Acting Poison

In peddling the humbug of international Communism, it is resorting to all kinds of stratagems. Among these, the "selling" of the Soviet Union to the broad masses abroad—to the uninformed ordinary people who take so much on trust—as something quite out of this world thanks to its Communist rulers, is considered as having proved the most fruitful.

It is a slow-acting poison, the conditioning effect of which needs yet be recognised in full by the West. But, in the Soviet propaganda laboratories, this roundabout way, the subliminal method,

was discovered long ago to be a most valuable steady dividend-payer. It has been exploited to the full ever since, yet it is only recently that it began to dawn on the western authorities that even the comparatively harmless commercial advertising by this means, say, of some brand of toothpaste or some other merchandise, may exert an undesirable subconscious influence on the consumer's mind.

Wearing Down Resistance

The wearing down of natural resistance against Communism and Soviet policy, the conditioning of people's minds to accept a vice as something natural by atrophying their moral faculties, is going on methodically, consistently, and efficiently.

The somewhat crude direct propaganda approach still has its uses, but the far-advanced "expert" way is in having the "patients" in the capitalist western world doctored by somebody from among themselves—by people they know and trust. A radio broadcast, for example, by a prominent public figure, a reputable business executive, or a well-known trade unionist, extolling the Soviet Union, is worth more than all the direct propaganda.

Distinguished Visitors

To enlist the "services" of western non-Communist personalities whose integrity and lack of sympathy for Communism is beyond the slightest doubt—that is where the Kremlin's confidence trickery is brought into play.

Distinguished visitors from the West are immediately marked as potential victims, and the stage is set for laying the trap. At a given point of their stay, they will be approached very courteously and in flattering terms for an interview, or it is suggested that they may feel prepared to address Moscow radio listeners "directly", to say a few words about their impressions, and so on.

The invitation is given and there are few who are not usually only too ready to oblige. The professional politician will see in it a golden opportunity for

"breaking through" to the Russian people. The businessman will, perhaps, think of the long overdue publicity for his country's or his firm's technical or some other achievements. And off they go, combining their objective with lauding what they have seen and praising what they have merely heard about; professing to have been deeply impressed by this, that, and the other; including so often much which is so commonplace in their own countries that it would be thought peculiar for anybody even to talk about it.

Tricked into Propaganda

Goaded on by a cunning remark or question, people seldom fail to fall for it and respond in exactly the way they were expected to do. But—however pleased they may feel with themselves in the belief of having done a good job of telling the Russians all sort of things about the West and its ways of life by wrapping it up in a sugar-coating of compliments to the Communist State or the Russian people—these otherwise clever and highly experienced men have actually been tricked into acting inadvertently as propagandists for the Communist order of things—not, as they imagined, to the Russian audience of Moscow Radio, but to their own people at home.

The truth is that of such interviews and broadcasts perhaps one in a blue moon will be quoted, a few words of it only as a rule, in a translated version in a broadcast later to the Soviet people. The actual thing, however—the whole original text and selected passages from such statements and interviews which particularly suit the Soviet purpose—will go on the radio, not once but several times, in broadcasts to the United States if the speaker happened to be an American, to Britain if he was English, and so on.

An Example

An example in point from the most recent past:

Senator Hubert Humphrey, Democratic member of the United States Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, on

his way back from Moscow, claimed in London that he had spoken "uncensored" for twenty-seven minutes on Moscow radio. But uncensored for whom?—the full interview formed a special feature of a Moscow Radio English language propaganda broadcast to North America, laid on several times during the night of December 5. It was NOT broadcast live or in whole on any Russian broadcast.

In the course of the interview Senator Humphrey was prompted to say whether he would agree that the Russians and Americans had a good deal in common:

Senator Humphrey : "I do indeed. You are a pioneer people. So are we. You are a people that has imagination. So are we. We are sentimental people. I think you are too. We work hard. You do too. . . . We have a geography that is somewhat alike. . . . I have gone out in the streets and breathed deeply this sharp winter atmosphere which is good for you. It makes a man of you. It makes you happy. It makes you sparkle.

"You see there are these things we have together, and I suggest that we have a little less talk about what things we are going to do to each other and a little more talk about what things we can do FOR each other. I suggest there be a few less talks on our weapons and a few more talks about our people and what we can do together. I suggest that we concentrate our energies on education better than concentrating all our energies upon instruments of destruction.

"Now this can be done and we are going to have to insist upon it, and I am doing it right here on this radio programme . . ."

In another passage, earlier in the interview, Senator Humphrey said:

" . . . Would it not be a wonderful thing if the Soviet Union and the United States could demonstrate to the world that when it comes to taking care of people's health, we stand shoulder to shoulder and work side by side?"

These are admirable sentiments no doubt. Unfortunately none of them reached the Russian people to whom Senator Humphrey thought he was talking. But they did reach the U.S.A. in the form of a Moscow propaganda broadcast.

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| Remarks: | | | |
| <p>I am not quite sure who in the DD/I would be the appropriate one to prepare a draft reply to Senator Humphrey. Possibly it should even be referred to the Department of State. In any event this should have <u>immediate attention</u> in view of the recent past contacts with the Senator and the forthcoming appearances before his Subcommittee.</p> | | | |
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